Please cancel Claims 11-13, 15-19, 41-45, 58, and 68, without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and please amend Claims 57 and 59-65, as indicated below. The following is a complete listing of claims and replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

Claims 1-56 (canceled).

Claim 57 (currently amended): An image processing system comprising:

an image processing apparatus, which combines material images to generate a mosaic image in imitation of an original image; and

an image storage apparatus, [[said]]

wherein the image processing apparatus comprising includes:

means for holding scale-down images including color information of each of a plurality of material images, wherein the scale-down images correspond respectively to each of the plurality of material images; [[and]]

division means for dividing the original image into a plurality of blocks;

determination means for determining selected material images and their positions such that the selected material images have color information similar to [[the]] color information of respective blocks divided from the original image based on the color information of each of the plurality of material images and the color information of each of the plurality of blocks; and

first output means for outputting the positions of the selected material images

determined by the determination means to the image storage apparatus, and

[[said]] wherein the image storage apparatus comprising includes:

storage means for storing the plurality of material images; and

second output means for outputting the selected material images determined by

[[said]] the determination means out of the plurality of material images stored in said image the

storage apparatus means according to the position positions of the selected material images

determined by [[said]] the determination means.

Claim 58 (canceled).

Claim 59 (currently amended): The system according to Claim 57, wherein the color information

corresponding to the plurality of material images is obtained from a plurality of scale-down

[[image]] images or a plurality of image characteristic parameters corresponding to the plurality

of material [[image]] images.

Claim 60 (currently amended): The system according to Claim 57, wherein [[said]] the image

processing apparatus further comprises includes receiving means for receiving [[the]] first

information corresponding to the plurality of material images from [[said]] the image storage

apparatus.

Claim 61 (currently amended): The system according to Claim [[57]] 60, wherein [[said]] the receiving means receives the first information corresponding to the plurality of material images during activation of [[said]] the image processing system.

Claim 62 (currently amended): The system according to Claim [[58]] 57, wherein [[said]] the storage means stores the plurality of material images by dividing the plurality of material images into a plurality of groups, and [[said]] the determination means determines the selected material images and their positions according to [[the]] first information corresponding to a plurality of material images contained in a selected group.

Claim 63 (currently amended): The system according to Claim [[58]] 60, wherein [[said]] the receiving means further receives a mosaic image generated by [[said]] the first output means.

Claim 64 (currently amended): The system according to Claim [[58]] 60, wherein [[said]] the image processing apparatus receives the selected material images determined by [[said]] the determination means from [[said]] the image storage means by [[said]] the receiving means and arranges the selected material images received by [[said]] the receiving means according to the positions determined by [[said]] the determination means to form a mosaic image.

Claim 65 (currently amended): The system according to Claim 57, wherein a plurality of [[said]] the image processing [[means]] apparatus are provided and [[said]] the image storage means can be shared between [[said]] the plurality of image processing [[means]] apparatus.

Claims 66-76 (canceled).